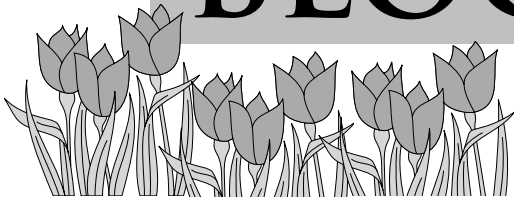


BLOCK WATCH



SPRING 2004

Newsletter

A LEGEND LOST...

In February our police department lost a legend. Lieutenant John Miner was tragically lost during an avalanche in Banff, Alberta Canada where he was climbing frozen Waterfalls with two team members. One of the team members was Russ Howard, a traffic signal technician who also worked for the City of Redmond. The other man lost was a Police Support Officer from Pierce County James Andruess. It has been a very slow healing process for our department and the city. Lieutenant Miner worked here for almost thirty years. He knew everything, really obscure city codes and laws that he could recite by heart. Talking to him was like going to the library. His last assignment was the Operations



Lieutenant where he supervised the Traffic Division. He was the mastermind behind all of the traffic revisions during Derby Days. He was also a large proponent of Pedestrian Safety. The city of Redmond has won several awards regarding Pedestrian Safety thanks to his work. So if you have crossed a street safely or enjoyed Derby Days you have been touched by Lt. Miner as we all have. What was really important about Lt. Miner was his great sense of humor. He had a really "tough guy" gruff type personality, but he was really the nicest officer you ever want to meet. Although stern when it came to traffic violators he always took the time to make it a "teachable moment" for the violator. Educating them on what could have happened.

During his thirty years here he's seen a lot of traffic violators, and he kept a log of all the excuses he got when he pulled folks over, these are actual quotes from drivers in the fair city of Redmond. I have decided to share a few with you every newsletter: This new section will be entitled Lt. Miners' Book of Excuses. I hope you enjoy them!

Lt. Miners' Book of Excuses

Violator stopped for speeding 50 mph in a 30 mph zone:

"I was trying to beat the light"

Violator stopped for running a stop sign:

"My cat's diabetic and I have to get home to give it a shot"

Violator stopped for speeding:

"I can't get another ticket for speeding, I already have eleven of them!"

THE INTERNET AND YOUR CHILD®

Redmond Police Department is proud to sponsor "The Internet and Your Child®" Class on Saturday May 15th. The class is designed to close the digital divide between parent and children who use the Internet.

Technology is here to stay and is a permanent part of any child's future. It has caused parents to have conversations with kids at a much earlier age than expected. Today kids know more about how to get around on the Internet than parents. Parents have taken the time to set up rules and regulations about the physical world, but what about Cyberspace? How does your child know exactly who they are chatting with and what type

of information are they allowed to give out over the Internet?

If you look at your child's user name on the computer what can you tell about him/her? (What does Susan1990 say to you?) How do they or you know that 12 year old Jan from Seattle is not really 45 year old James who is a sex predator that has been grooming your child for the past six months during chat line sessions? What will your child do if he/she goes to WhiteHouse.com and realizes it's not the website they thought it would be? What have you done to prepare your child for these types of situations? Most of these questions can be answered on

May 15th from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. It will be the best 7 hours you have spent learning to protect your child and your family. Interested? Please contact Officer Holland by phone at 556-2545 or email sholland@redmond.gov for more information on the required registration.

Early Reminder:
Mark your calendars!
The 21st Annual
National Night Out
is Tuesday, August 3rd!

**Block Watch Contact:**

Block Watch Liaison: Crime Prevention Facilitator, Stacey Holland or Coordinator, Nancy Haskell
Phone: (425) 556-2545, E-mail: sholland@redmond.gov



ROAD RAGE

Whoa, look at the time, I gotta get the kids off to school, get myself ready and get to work. You find yourself in a rush to get to there. As you leave home and attempt to merge onto the freeway the other motorist seem to be deliberately keeping you from moving into snarling traffic. "Why won't they let me over!?" Once you finally do merge, the motorist behind you begins tailgating and mouthing obscenities—as if he was upset because you cut him off. As you continue to look up at him in your rearview mirror your temperature begins to boil. "I bet if I slam on my brakes he'll get off my tail!" Has this ever happened to you? (Well of course not, you're a member of Neighborhood Watch and you know better) Maybe it's happened to



someone you know, whatever the case here are some words of wisdom. With overburdened roads unable to keep up with the ever-rising demand of traffic, aggressive driving and road rage is increasingly becoming more commonplace. Keeping a cool head and doing your best not to take things personally is the easiest way to avoid a roadway conflict. I know it's difficult to think that way when they're right up on your bumper, but consider this: Did that person just lose their job, is that person behind the wheel rushing to see a loved one who's in the emergency room, is the person behind the wheel on medication, is that person behind the wheel **off** their medication,

I say all that to say you never know what the other driver is going through and "brake checking" them is not going to make it any better.

- ❖ Make a point to give yourself plenty of time to get to your destination so you don't get stressed out when you run into gridlock traffic.
- ❖ Making or returning obscene gestures to other drivers around you only escalate the situation. A quick wave and a courteous smile can go a long way to diffusing tempers.
- ❖ If you do find yourself being followed by an aggressive or hostile motorist, switch lanes and let them pass you, if you are feeling scared use your cell phone to call 911, give the dispatcher your exact location and then tell them your story.
- ❖ Above all never stop to confront another driver who is angry about a roadway incident.

Dumb criminal Quiz #7

How well do you know the dumb criminal mind?

An officer fired at a bearded burglary suspect. The fleeing felon was unhurt, but the bullet tore a hole in the man's shirt as it flapped in the breeze. The criminal escaped. Immediately afterward, did he...

- (a) Sew his shirt while he watched television?
- (b) Shave his beard and go right down to the police station?
- (c) Use his shirt as a hand puppet to entertain children?
- (d) Try and take his shirt back for a refund?

If your answer was (b), you are correct. In Atlanta, a burglar was fired at by officers, escaped unhurt, and returned to his own home. When he got home, he quickly shaved his beard to fool the police and then went right to the police station to report that his car had been stolen. He was arrested on the spot.

Why? First, in his haste, he had cut himself shaving, so his face was a bloody mess. Oh, and he also forgot to change the shirt that had the bullet hole in it.

RPD OFFICERS LITERALLY "TO SERVE" AT TIP-A-COP EVENT

Officers will be conducting an unusual service of sorts on Thursday April 29, 2004. Instead of doing the usual things that police officers do for the citizens of Redmond such as: take reports, respond to their emergency calls, or issue them traffic citations, these police officers will be serving them food.

On Thursday April 29, 2004 from 6:00–9:30 p.m. Redmond Police Officers will be waiting and bussing tables at the Claim Jumper Restaurant at 7210 164th Ave. NE in Redmond Town Center in an effort to raise funds for Special Olympics Washington. The "Tip-a-Cop" event has these off duty, uniformed officers volunteering their time and performing these duties. Any customer tips are turned into donations for Special Olympics, which coincidentally the customer can write off of their taxes.



The event is part of a larger campaign called the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics, which many police agencies across the state participate in to raise funds and public awareness for Special Olympics. Anyone desiring further information can contact Officer Erik Scairpon at (425) 556-2573 or Lt. Charlie Gorman at (425) 556-2566.



Tip-A-Cop
Mark your calendars!
Thursday, April 29, 2004
6:00–9:30 p.m.
Claim Jumper Restaurant
7210 164th Ave. NE in Redmond Town Center

KEEPING A SUCCESSFUL BLOCK WATCH IN YOUR AREA

It is important to keep your group active and enthusiastic. Maintaining communication between group members and the Redmond Police Department are very important. Be sure to schedule regular meetings so that your group remains focused. As concerns within the community change and crime patterns evolve, make sure you tailor your efforts around the new problems.

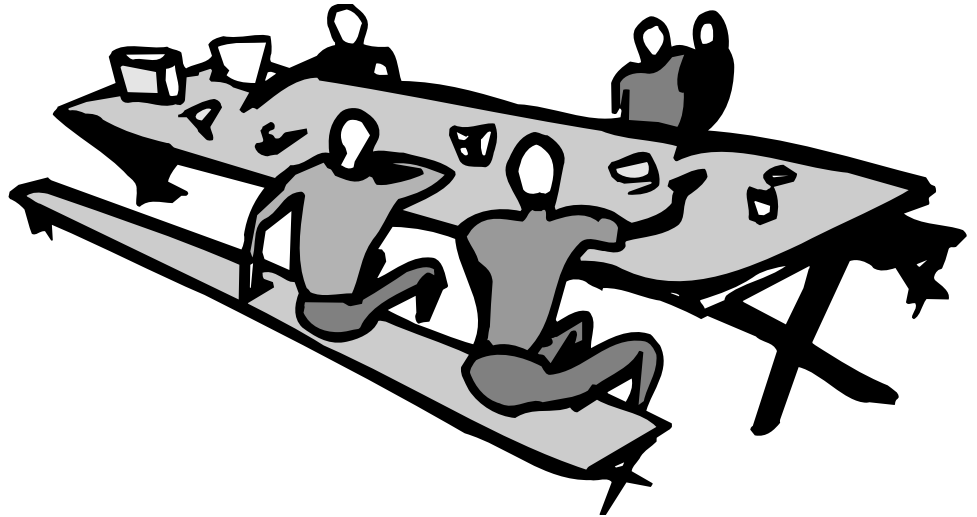
If all of those involved in the Neighborhood Watch program are aiming for the same goal, the program will be successful. This is not an overnight process; it takes patience, planning and enthusiasm. Studies show that once a Neighborhood Watch program deteriorates, criminals notice and quickly resume their illegal activities. The Neighborhood Watch program takes a degree of commitment on the part of citizens. It requires meetings, patrols, and other activities.

Most Neighborhood Watches are successful. The key to that success is fully mobilizing the residents to become involved.

Neighborhood Watch has the potential to produce positive results beyond reducing crime. In many communities across the Nation, Neighborhood Watch has helped to increase social interaction, deepen friendships and foster neighborhood self-reliance.

Many neighborhoods already have established Neighborhood Watch groups that are vibrant

and effective. For neighborhoods without a thriving group, the new emphasis on terrorism awareness, and renewed emphasis on emergency preparedness and emergency response may provide the right incentive for your neighborhood to revitalize its efforts in Neighborhood Watch.



Have You Had A Block Watch Meeting Lately?

Periodic meeting are one of the keys to keeping a Neighborhood watch effective. Not only do they provide a good forum for information sharing, they also underscore the notion that involved neighbors are the most effective crime preventers. We ask that your Neighborhood Watch meet at least twice a year to get reacquainted and to review the latest happening in your neighborhood. Need a topic for discussion.

Here are a few ideas we can bring to you:

- ❖ Identity Theft: How to Prevent It
- ❖ Firearms Safety In the Home
- ❖ Emergency Preparedness
- ❖ Personal Safety Classes
- ❖ Traffic Safety
- ❖ How to Report Suspicious Activity

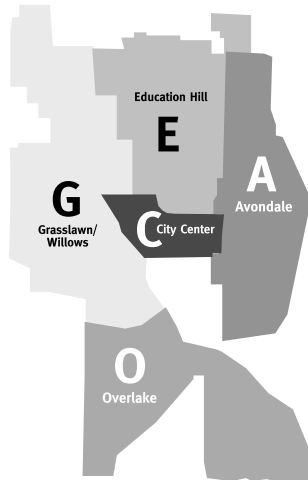


NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK ALERT SYSTEM

Neighborhood Network Alert system is coming to an email near you. Are you interested in what crime trends are going on in the City of Redmond? The newest scams and crime trends can be emailed to you by signing up for the Neighborhood Network Alert System. NAS works like this; just send an email to Officer

Holland at sholland@redmond.gov and type **NAS** in the subject line, it's that simple. You will receive emails periodically about upcoming personal safety classes, local scams, and rashes of crime that go on in the city. What you will not receive is junk email! So be informed and take the time to sign up today!

REDMOND CRIME STATISTICS

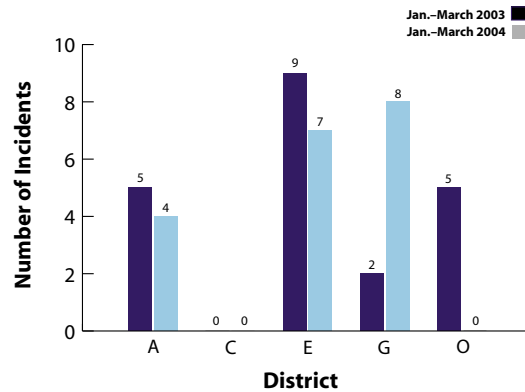


2003 YTD: Property Crimes of Interest by District

Offense/District	A	C	E	G	O	Totals
Residential Burglary	4	0	7	8	0	19
Commercial Burglary	10	4	1	3	6	24
MV Prowl (incl. parts)	16	13	24	46	20	119
MV Theft	11	3	5	9	12	40
Totals	41	20	37	66	38	202

* All offenses include attempts.

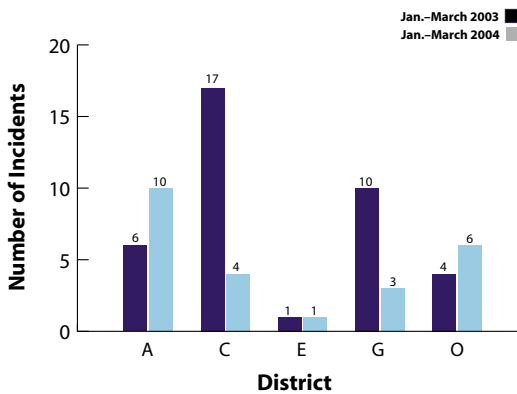
Residential Burglaries (includes attempts)



Residential Burglary (including attempts)

District	2003	2004	% Change
A-Avondale	5	4	-20%
C-Central	0	0	NC
E-Education Hill	9	7	-22%
G-Grasslawn	2	8	300%
O-Overlake	5	0	-100%
Total	21	19	-10%

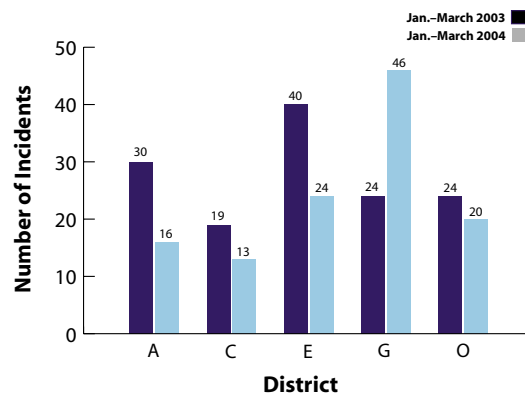
Commercial Burglaries (includes attempts)



Commercial Burglary (including attempts)

District	2003	2004	% Change
A-Avondale	6	10	NC
C-Central	17	4	-76%
E-Education Hill	1	1	NC
G-Grasslawn	10	3	-70%
O-Overlake	4	6	50%
Total	38	24	-37%

Motor Vehicle Prowls (includes vehicle parts and attempts)

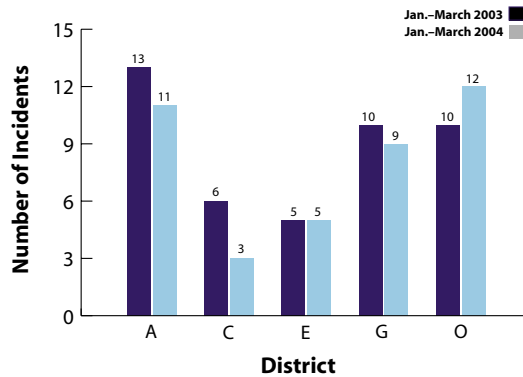


Motor Vehicle Prowl (including theft of parts and attempts)

District	2003	2004	% Change
A-Avondale	30	16	-47%
C-Central	19	13	-32%
E-Education Hill	40	24	-40%
G-Grasslawn	24	46	92%
O-Overlake	24	20	-17%
Total	137	119	-13%

REDMOND CRIME STATISTICS

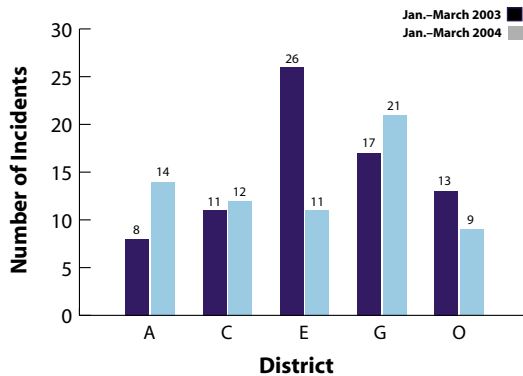
Theft of Motor Vehicle (includes all motor vehicles and attempts)



Motor Vehicle Theft (including all motor vehicles and attempts)

District	2003	2004	% Change
A--Avondale	13	11	-15%
C--Central	6	3	-50%
E--Education Hill	5	5	0%
G--Grasslawn	10	9	-10%
O--Overlake	10	12	20%
Total	44	40	-9%

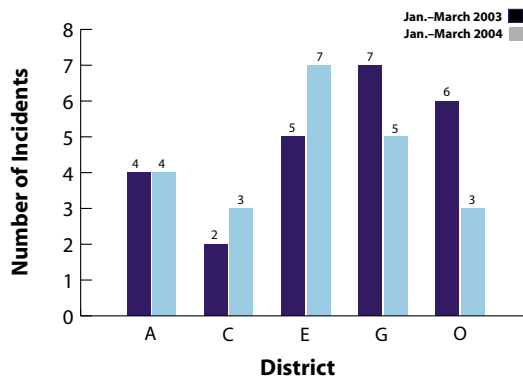
Malicious Mischief



Malicious Mischief

District	2003	2004	% Change
A--Avondale	8	14	75%
C--Central	11	12	9%
E--Education Hill	26	11	-58%
G--Grasslawn	17	21	24%
O--Overlake	13	9	-31%
Total	75	67	-11%

Suspicious Circumstances



“Suspicious” Calls

District	2003	2004	% Change
A--Avondale	4	4	0%
C--Central	2	3	50%
E--Education Hill	5	7	40%
G--Grasslawn	7	5	-29%
O--Overlake	6	3	-50%
Total	24	22	-8%